<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 10, 2006. Claims 1 to 5, 7, 16 to 20, 22, 31 to 35, 37, 46 to 50, 52 and 54 to 60 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 16, 31, and 46 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 46 to 50 and 52 were objected to for allegedly being duplicates of Claims 31 to 35 and 37, respectively. The objections are respectfully traversed since the two sets of claims are directed to different statutory subject matter. Specifically, Claims 31 to 35 and 37 are directed to a computer readable memory medium, while Claims 46 to 50 and 52 are directed to a computer program. A claim to a computer readable memory medium differs from a claim to a computer program, as § 1.75 requires. Thus, while it is true that both sets of claims recite "program" and "medium," Claims 31 to 35 and 37 claim the computer readable memory medium, while Claims 46 to 50 and 52 claim the computer program. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5, 7, 16 to 20, 22, 31 to 35, 37, 46 to 50 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,089,765 (Mori) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,567,180 (Kageyama). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to reprinting of a print job. According to one aspect of the invention, a server stores both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data of a print job as reservation job data and manages the reservation job data even after a print data for the print job is output to a printing apparatus. The device-dependent-format data is page description language that is generated from the

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device-independent-format data. Then, if there is a request to reprint the data, the server can simply look at attributes of the reprint request and compare them with the reservation data to determine if they are the same. If so, then the stored device-dependent-format data can simply be output to the printing apparatus by the server. If not, then the server can send the stored device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus such that the information processing apparatus generates the print data, which is the device-dependent-format data, corresponding to the output destination for reprint based on the device-independent-format data.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a print server apparatus that receives a print job to be printed from an information processing apparatus through a network. The printer server apparatus comprises reservation job management means for storing, in a memory, both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data of the print job as reservation job data, received from the information processing apparatus, and managing the reservation job data even after print data for the print job is output to a printing apparatus. The device-dependent-format data is page description language that is generated from the device-independent-format data. The printer server apparatus also comprises determination means for determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for the reservation job data managed by the reservation job management means if a reprint request is received from the information processing apparatus, and output control means for outputting the device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus such that the information processing apparatus generates print data, which is the device-dependent-format data, corresponding to the output destination for reprint based on the device-independent-format data, if the

determination means determines that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination, if the determination means determines that the attributes are the same. The device-dependent-format data is data generated by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination, and the device-independent-format data is data generated prior to a generation process by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination.

Amended independent Claims 16, 31 and 46 are method, memory medium and computer program claims, respectively, that correspond generally to Claim 1.

The applied references are not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 16, 31 and 46, and in particular, are not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a printer server determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data, and outputting device-independent-format data to an information processing apparatus such that the information processing apparatus generates print data, which is device-dependent-format data, corresponding to the output destination for reprint based on the device-independent-format data, if it is determined that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination, if it is determined that the attributes are the same.

Mori is seen to teach a print system comprising a computer and a printer, where the computer retransmits print data stored in the computer or regenerated in the computer to the printer in response to a retransmission request from the printer. While Mori may disclose storing device-dependent-format data in the computer, Mori is not seen to disclose or to suggest storing device-independent-format data, much less disclose or suggest determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an

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output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data, and outputting device-independent-format data to an information processing apparatus such that the information processing apparatus generates print data, which is device-dependent-format data, corresponding to the output destination for reprint based on the device-independent-format data, if it is determined that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination, if it is determined that the attributes are the same.

Kageyama is seen to disclose storing a document in an archive 2200 of printer controller 200 of printer 100. The format of the document is selected from PDL format and dot image format. When a reprinting of a dot image format document is to be performed, printer 100 simply prints the document from output work section 2400. (column 17, lines 1 to 34). When a reprinting of a PDL document is to be performed, printer 100 first processes the document in an RIP section 2310 and compression section 2320, which are in printer 100, prior to printing. (Id.) Therefore, while Kageyama may disclose printing a PDL document, Kageyama is not seen to disclose or to suggest determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data, and outputting device-independent-format data to an information processing apparatus such that the information processing apparatus generates print data, which is device-dependent-format data, corresponding to the output destination for reprint based on the device-independent-format data, if it is determined that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination, if it is determined that the attributes are the same. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 16, 31 and 46 are believed to be allowable.

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The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.
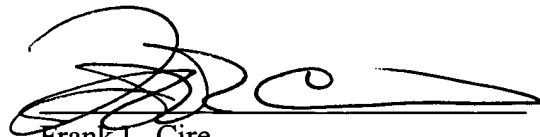
No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

<u>REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW</u>

Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the foregoing patentable features of the invention. Accordingly, Applicant's representative will contact the Examiner in due course to schedule an interview.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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